

## ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

5 A tonneau cover apparatus for attaching a flexible cover about a cargo box of a vehicle, preferably a pickup truck. The apparatus preferably includes, a support frame removably attached about the perimeter of a cargo box of the vehicle, an elongated end plate attached to an end of the flexible cover and an end plate engagement member attached to the support frame, preferably one on each side of the support frame. The end plate is preferably attached to an end of the flexible cover and is configured to cooperatively engage and pivot with respect to the end plate engagement member and into and out of a fixed stretching position wherein the flexible cover can be correspondingly be tensed and relaxed. The end plate engagement member preferably has a radial receiving surface and the end plate has a radial engaging surface, which engages the radial receiving surface when the end plate pivots into the fixed stretching position.

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